by different State Government in 1989; and

(b) what is the quota of all these commodities sanctioned by Government, State-wise and commodity-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating the required information is attached. [See Appendix CXLIV, Annexure No. 13].

Central Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for Drought

421. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has demanded Rs. 88.3 crores from the Central Government for meeting the drought situation in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Centre have sought details as to how this amount is likely to be spent; and

(c) if so, what are the districts in the State where this amount is to be spent and how much has already been spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Madhya Pradesh in their Memoranda sought Central assistance of Rs. 88.03 crores for drought relief.

(b) and (c) As per information received from Government of Madhya Pradesh. Rs. 48.61 crores has been spent on Employment Generation Programmes and Drinking Water Scheme from April to December, 1988 in the districts of Rewa, Sahdol, Sidhi, Satna; Raipur, Durg and Rajnandgaon where crop failure has been reported.

Progress of Poverty Alleviation Programme

422. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the past one year the scope of poverty alleviation programme was enlarged and number of steps were taken to make their implementation effective;

(b) if so to what extent the rural development was improved and strengthened;

(c) the number of people benefited by this programme till date;

(d) the total No. of families covered under the scheme and helped uptil now; and

(e) what are the further steps being taken to improve the position further during 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is a major alleviation programme. During the current year a number of steps have been initiated to make the programme more effective. These include Group Life Insurance Scheme, emphasis on diversification of activities, qualitative monitoring and marketing of IRDP products.

(c) and (d) During the current year, it is targeted to assist 31.94 lakhs families. Upto December 1988, 23.62 lakhs families have been assisted.

(e) The improvement in the implementation of programme is continuous process and steps for iprovement will be taken on the basis of findings/ recommendations of various research studies and reports etc. as and when they become available.